

**For Immediate Release
April 19, 2010**

**City of Asheville
Public Works Department
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SEVERE WINTER CAUSES BRUSH COLLECTION DELAYS

ASHEVILLE - Public Works crews continue to devote all available resources to brush removal. In the first three months of 2010, the city collected 4561 tons of brush or twice the volume collected in the same timeframe in 2009. A significant increase in volume has caused a delay in the normal brush pick-up schedule.

"We continue to see a greater volume of brush set out for pick-up as residents get out to clean yards and prune back vegetation that was damaged this winter," said Solid Waste Manager Wendy Simmons. "We will continue to work at full capacity and apologize for any inconvenience the delay has caused. Residents can count on us providing this service, the sheer volume of brush has just slowed down our schedule."

Brush should be cut to four feet in length and six inches in diameter. Crews ask that residents do not mix trash, debris, garden waste, weeds, vines, construction materials, leaves or dirt. For the safety of crews, thorny trimmings should be placed in a separate pile.

For further information contact the City of Asheville at 251-1122 or visit www.ashevillenc.gov/sanitation. This release may be found at http://ashevillenc.gov/news/news_releases/default.aspx?id=21742

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